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HIPO TOUR . . . Several Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts had a look-see inside the huge Highway Post Office Thursday afternoon through special arrangements made by Mrs. Clara Conner, postmaster. The group was shown the operation which goes on inside the huge red, white, and blue post office bus which shuttles into the local Post Office daily. The tour through the bus had to be cleared in Washington, Mrs. Conner said.

REPORT HARVEY READY TO START NEW PLANT

Townsend to Return Home Next Week-End

Betty Townsend may have all of her family home with her before another week goes by.

That was the word late yesterday as the young mother set about arranging her modest home at 20951 Brighton Ave. in the hope that her husband, Don, and her son, Gary Lee, would be allowed to come home.

Mrs. Townsend said yesterday that she was expecting the hospital to release Don any day, "possibly today."

Son Gary Lee, who was born July 16 weighing 2 lbs. 6 oz., will be allowed to come home as soon as his sister, two-year-old Vicky, is completely over the whooping cough, Mrs. Townsend said.

Herald Offices To Be Closed On Labor Day

Editorial and advertising offices of the Torrance Herald will be closed tomorrow, Labor Day, to allow Herald employees to enjoy the national holiday.

The Herald will be open as usual at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Regular editorial and advertising deadlines will apply.

The Herald staff extends to all a wish for a happy and safe holiday. Please drive carefully, we'd hate to lose a reader.

Harvey Set to Break Ground for New Mill

Installation of the four giant aluminum extrusion and forging presses for the Harvey Machine Co. in Torrance appeared a step closer Friday with the report that 40 acres of land being purchased by Harvey from the Dominguez Estates Co. has cleared escrow in Los Angeles.

The acreage in the transaction, located at the southwest corner of the intersection of 190th St. and Western Ave., will be the future site of the huge presses which are to be part of Air Force's \$375,000,000 heavy press program.

Expansion Halted

Hailed as a \$20,000,000 expansion of the Harvey facilities here when announced last March, little progress has been reported during the summer while officials of the company negotiated for land on which to build the industrial giants.

To be installed in the new facility will be two aluminum extrusion presses of 8000 tons and 20,000 tons, and two heavy forging presses of 25,000 and 35,000 tons. Structures needed to house these huge machines have been variously described as rising from 10 to 14 stories in height.

Details on the number of persons to be employed in the new plant when completed have not been released.

Stronger Planes

When completed, the huge facility will provide west coast aircraft manufacturers with access to extrusions and forgings for the development and manufacture of planes, with forged units of great size and strength which will mean faster, stronger, and better aircraft for the future.

In addition to the added strength to aircraft, it has been predicted that the heavy presses would effect savings of more than \$61,000,000 during the next four years.

The 40-acre site selected by Harvey Machine Co. for the new facility is part of the 43,119 acres granted by the Spanish King to Jose Dominguez before the great California gold rush of 1849.

Completion of the factory will add little to the tax picture of the city at the present time, City Manager George Stevens said recently. The facility will be government-owned and as such will not be subject to taxing, Stevens said. The plant may serve as a magnet for other industry, however, and may someday be turned over to a private company which would make it subject to taxes.

Date when construction on the new plant will be started has not been released.

OFFICERS NAB SUSPECT, FIND GUNS IN AUTO

Two alert Torrance patrolmen spotted a suspect wanted for questioning regarding armed burglary and grand theft, auto, early yesterday morning, only a few short hours after an all-points bulletin had been broadcast.

Officers Tom Pattishall and Buck Ingram saw a car parked at a Walteria motel which answered the description of that mentioned in the broadcast.

In the auto, the officers saw a .38 caliber Colt revolver and a double-barreled shotgun. Four other policemen were summoned and the suspect was taken into custody.

He was identified as Ray William Noblett, wanted by Valley Division detectives, Los Angeles Police Department. Police said the suspect is wanted for questioning regarding the looting of his parents home, theft of their car, and other offenses.



WINNING DISPLAY . . . Taking the sweepstakes award at the Recreation Department Open House last Thursday was this display entered by the Walteria playground. Everything on display was made by children in Walteria during the summer.

Phooey!

Crime Career? Not This Guy; It Doesn't Pay

A bathing suit clad boy who started out on a career of crime at a young age Thursday night probably is a firm advocate of the "it just doesn't pay" adage.

Police said a 7½-year old lad, attired only in his swim trunks, pushed a two-wheeled cart into a market at Hawthorne Ave. and Torrance Blvd. and stuffed paper bags full of toys, candy, a can opener, canned beans, cornflakes and a knife, and then pushed the cart out the door—making his quick get-away.

But even quicker clerk nabbed the suspect, and called for authorities. The boy agreed to fork over \$1.55 in cash he had brought with him to pay for the candy, but said he wasn't prepared to pay for the remaining items.

The lad's parents, it was disclosed, took the situation well in hand, administering a suitable posterior reminder that crime just doesn't pay.

Auto Hits Gardena Bus

Several motorists escaped injury Friday afternoon, when an auto driven by Evelyn Replage, 25, of 1400 Carson St., collided with a Gardena City Bus at 203rd and Western Ave.

Black Smoke Towers High As Fire Damages \$200,000 Unit

(Editor's note: Herald reporter Dick Friend was in a position to "cover" the Chandler Sand and Gravel Co. fire Thursday probably few newspapermen ever find themselves. As an "on call" fireman with Los Angeles County's Engine Co. 56, Friend spent several hours on the business end of a fire hose in and around the burning structure. The following is a first-hand account of the fire.)

Thick black smoke which was visible for at least ten miles towered from a Lomita rock crushing, sand refining unit at the Chandler's Sand and Gravel Co. as flames roared through the heavy wooden structure late Thursday afternoon.

Believed started by sparks from a welder's torch, the flames spread rapidly through the maze of crosscut timber, oily machinery and rubber conveyor belts. Damage was estimated by owner Lynn Chandler at \$75,000 to \$100,000. The unit was valued at \$200,000.

Four men working with welding equipment atop the structure, at Narbonne Ave. and 253rd St., attempted to quell the progress of the fire with small hose streams, but soon were forced to flee to safety.

Burning debris blew across Narbonne Ave. touching off three fires on the grassy hill-sides.

First to reach the fire was the County Fire Department's Engine 6, from Lomita, under direction of Captain Roy Swank. Two heavy hose lines were brought into action with hopes of stopping the flames from enveloping the entire unit. Floor separations at three levels made the entire structure resemble a wall-less building seething with fire.

John Ficht

Two County trucks from the Rolling Hills station joined in the battle, one of the units crossing a nearby canyon to snuff out the wind-fanned grass fire. Another big hose line was laid to the south of the rock crusher.

Within twenty minutes, the flames were knocked down to such an extent that firemen could go up into the charred floor levels with smaller hoses to get "in" to the fire.

By this time, two more engine companies, and Battalion Chief George Bartling, had arrived at the scene.

Bartling declared the fire was under control at about 6:15 p.m., only forty-five minutes after the alarm had been reported.

The plant will not be in operation for many weeks, Chandler said. Office buildings, ware-houses, truck garages, and a cement mixing unit were damaged.

Everything Ready

Everything is ready for Don when he is allowed to come home from Harbor General Hospital where he has been since Aug. 7 with serious injuries suffered in an auto crash.

Friends and neighbors of the family and hundreds of Torrance area residents who didn't know the Townsends but read of their plight in the Torrance Herald rallied around with donations to help the struggling Mrs. Townsend when mounting hospital bills and medical expenses overwhelmed her.

Most recent assistance came from the VFW Auxiliary which held a cookie sale downtown last Saturday and turned the proceeds over to the young mother.

Ball Fans Dig

Spectators at the Lions-Rotary softball classic last Tuesday evening also chipped in \$30 when the hat was passed for the Townsends during the game.

"Everybody has been so wonderful," Mrs. Townsend said yesterday.

"I really don't know what I would have done without the help that hundreds of Torrance people gave me during the past several weeks," she said.

A hospital bed has already been installed before a large front window of the Townsend home in Woodley Square, and a trapeze will be installed so Don, who is now in a body cast from his armpits to his knees can move a little.

"I'll manage"

"I guess I'll manage," Mrs. Townsend said yesterday, looking ahead to the time when she would have her bedridden husband, a tiny baby, and a two-year-old to look after.

The hospital bed was put in the Townsend home by a former Army buddy, Bob Aguilar, of the South Bay Ambulance Service.

Other contributions from groups and individuals have continued to pour in until Mrs. Townsend can face the future without some of the worries which haunted her a few short weeks ago.

County Tax Rate Dropped

The Board of Supervisors Friday adopted a tax rate of \$1,630 for each \$100 assessed valuation for the 1952-53 fiscal year. Last year's rate was \$1,639. The slight drop in rate was credited to the rise in the assessed valuation of secured property and public utilities in the county.

Still to be announced is the Sanitation District tax for District No. 5. Last year it was approximately 30 cents per \$100.

Here is the tax picture for Torrance taxpayers with the exception of the County Sanitation District tax.

L. A. County	\$1,6306
Torrance	1,1250
School District	2,9846
Flood Control	0,6700
County Library	0,6730
Metropolitan Water	0,2800
Total rate	\$7,3632

'Back to School' Bargains to Fill Thursday Herald

Bargains galore for those "Back to School" shopping trips will be offered by merchants through the pages of next Thursday's Torrance Herald.

A special "Back to School" edition of the Herald will be crammed with clothing and accessories specials for school and will contain pictures and information of Torrance schools which will open the following week.



ROYAL COUPLE . . . Winning acclaim as the Health King and Queen at the Open House program Thursday were Dennis Lancaster and Charlee Harris. They were chosen from contestants entered from each of the city's playgrounds.